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INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 30 OCT 50 25X1

SUBJECT Krivan National Enterprise in Kosice

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The Kosice plant of the Krivan National Enterprise was named the Polednak plant after the former owner until 1947 when it was absorbed by Krivan National Enterprise.* Since the Communist reorganization of Krivan, this plant is again independent and will be renamed, probably for some Communist leader. The new name of the plant will also probably contain the term Kosicke strojarne (Kosice machine works) or Polednak. Plants now subordinate to the management of the Kosice plant include three factories in Medzev (R49/E04), a foundry in Kosicke Hamry (R49/E15), and factories in Plesivec (R49/D62) and Prakovce (R49/E05).
2. This plant, which currently employs about 700 workers, was built before World War II on 120,000 square meters of land in the middle of the city of Kosice. Factory buildings cover about 7,000 square meters and consist of several small shops. Machinery is old, but in good condition. It includes grooving machines, a riveting machine for the production of small boilers, six cutting machines, two radial drills and four high speed lathes. In 1945 it was the only plant in Slovakia with a staff of designers. The plant produces milling machines and 200 h.p. turbines, and makes repairs to all sorts of industrial machinery. In 1946, the plant undertook the difficult task of producing machines to cover insulated wire with woven fabric. The quality of production of this plant has always been good.
3. The construction of a new, larger factory for the Krivan National Enterprise in Kosice was included in the Two Year Plan and plans were drawn up for constructing the plant in the vicinity of the Kosice airfield. However, because of the objections of the air force to such a restriction on the use of the airfield, new plans were developed and construction was begun on the plant on a site near the Hornad River. After the expenditure of about five million crowns on preliminary factory construction, the airfield was moved and the Slovak National Council decided to halt construction on the river site, and relocate the new factory near the former airfield. Building on this site is progressing rapidly. When complete, this new plant will produce approximately the same items as the older factory.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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4. The new manager of the Kosice plants is Ing. Kubik, formerly head of the Povazska Bystrica National Enterprise from which post he was removed as a punitive measure. In this position he depends for assistance on ten experts who have been employed in the plant since it was under private ownership. Kubik expects to be promoted in the near future to the post of manager of the Precision Mechanics National Enterprise in Prague.
5. The three subsidiary plants at Medzev employ 150 workers and produce axes and shovels. They control about 40 "hamry" or small water-driven forges in the Bodva River valley. The factory at Kosicke Hamry employs about 20 men and produces scale weights, while that at Plesivec has 50 employees and manufactures simple agricultural machinery and makes minor machine repairs. None of these plants has any military significance.
6. The factory in Prakovce is the largest of the subsidiary plants, employing about 800 workers. It was built by the Poldi Ironworks before the war under orders from the Ministry of National Defense. The buildings cover about 16,000 square meters and are built of steel or wood frame with a brick veneer. Equipment includes a 500 kg. electric furnace, a small forge and a foundry. Poldi did not complete the plant as ordered and in 1945 plans for its completion were abandoned. The electric hardening furnaces were returned to Poldi, and much of the installed machinery, including two large hydraulic presses, four steam hammers and eight drop hammers, has been allowed to rust. Production includes files, sprocket chains, large cogwheels, Ajax hammers and metal saws. The production program calls for the manufacture of cast and forged industrial items such as valves, of which eight types are being mass produced at the present time. Although this plant is of no military importance at present, the large buildings and the adequate supply of labor in the vicinity make possible its development into an important factory.

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